



ROE News

September 13, 2011

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

School Phone:	(713) 942-1460
After School Program:	(713) 524-8430
Office Hours:	7:15 am – 4:00 pm
Web Site:	www.riveroakselementaryschool.org
E-mail:	kfovargu@houstonisd.org
PTO website:	http://www.riveroakspto.org
ROE News Editors:	roenews@riveroakspto.org
Follow us on Twitter:	@ROEWORLD

CALENDAR ITEMS

September 13	Open House for K-2 - 5:30 to 7:00
September 15	Open House for 3-5 - 5:30 to 7:00
September 16	Odyssey of the Mind Parent Awareness Coffee 8:00 to 9:00
September 21	PTO Board Meeting - 6:00 to 7:00.
September 24	Fall Planting in the Nature Center – 10:00 to 12:00
September 30	Movie Night @ 7:00.

FROM THE DESK OF DR. FOVARGUE

HISD Superintendent Terry Grier wants to hear directly from you. Please make plans to attend one of six upcoming Community Conversations in the month of October. Share your thoughts, ask questions, and find out what HISD is doing to boost student achievement and make this the best school district in America.

The first of the Community Conversations with Superintendent Terry Grier will take place on October 4 at Sam Houston MSTC. A session for staff will be held from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., and a session for the community is scheduled from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Visit

www.houstonisd.org/communityconversations to learn more and see a complete list of dates and times.

- Dr Keri Fovargue, Principal

SCIENCE LAB AND NATURE CENTER

Here are the latest updates on our Lab and Nature Center. The Nature Center has been pruned and trimmed, and has had a topographical study done to prepare it for its master planned renovation with Nelson Water Gardens and Joe Blanton of the Houston Arboretum. Our strategic planning group, the NCC (Nature Center Committee) has welcomed our newest member, Dr. Keri Fovargue, ROE's Head of Schools! The NCC has worked all summer to keep our habitat watered, maintain equipment, and coordinate for the next phase of the renovation. They have helped the Nature Center survive those blistering 100+ degree days. A big thank you to Regina Burns, Tina Salem, Ann Hester-Morley and Minh Tran!

The Science Lab has been showered with tons of valuable

equipment and supplies from our generous parents!

The Shilstones have donated a complete 29 gallon aquarium with all the trimmings. It will be the Lab's first permanent indoor marine habitat.

Special thanks to Rachel Cela, Lara Savas, Marc Sanders, and Claire Richards for donating generously to the PTO run Science Lab wish list. The kids are looking forward to the new equipment and experiments. I would also like to thank David Rose for his expert advice on setting up a marine habitat. I was more than a bit nervous about wiping out the aquarium's population in the first week.

A big, big thank you goes to Janann Pittman who has worked on finding creative ways of including ROE's Specialist team in ROE's very supportive parents calculations. ROE now has a continuing wish list that is posted in ROE's online store and will also be highlighted on a mobile bulletin board during the Open House days next week. Thank you Ms. Pittman!

A few final notes: If your child cannot be out in the Nature Center due to allergies/sensitivities, etc, please write a note to that effect to the Lab so that our school Nurse, Ms. Petner and I coordinate on available options. The Lab is still happy to take batteries, ink cartridges, used cell phones and aluminum cans from home for recycling. Ms. Salem has agreed to partner with the Roots and Shoots elective to offer kids classes on composting techniques and organic gardening. Thanks Ms. Salem! I am looking forward to another great year with our learning community.

- Paul Rainn- Science Specialist

FALL FUNDRAISER KICKOFF

A large white Gift Queen envelope should arrive in your child's back pack today. If you don't receive an envelope, extras are available on top of the Fall Fundraiser locker at the end of the Kindergarten hallway. Want to see the products before you order? We will have a product sample table at the front entrance during Open Houses this week. Items may be easily ordered online at the School Store or you can return order forms and checks to the Fall Fundraiser locker. Sales end **September 30**, so start your holiday shopping now! We appreciate your support in making this ROE's 2nd largest Fundraiser! For questions, please email fallfundraiser@riveroakspto.org
-Colleen Morris and Wendy Selvaggi

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

It is time to let us know if you are interested in Odyssey of the Mind! We will be visiting classrooms this week to

introduce OotM to students, and there will be an informational coffee for parents wishing to learn more on **Friday, September 16** from 8-9 a.m. at ROE. You should receive a registration form this week. Interested coaches and students should fill out the form and forward it to Asst. Principal Gutierrez (<<http://www.roepto.com/om/>>Mgutie16@houstonisd.org). You are also welcome to contact OM Volunteer Coordinator Elisa Donovan (ootm@riveroakspto.org) if you have questions. OM is a volunteer program, and parents are expected to take an active role in supporting the team. The number of children we serve is contingent upon the number of parents willing to coach. The only way to guarantee a spot on a team for your child is to coach!
-Elisa Donovan, OM Volunteer Coordinator

SPECIALIST TEACHER WISHES

Our classroom teachers sometimes have special needs or wishes for their classrooms and our Specialist teachers (art, music, library, PE, science and Spanish) are just the same. Please remember them on Open House Night by stopping by the **Specialist Wish List Bulletin Board** and please consider purchasing an item for them. The board will be in the front hallway on Tuesday (K-2 night) and in the third through fifth grade wing on Thursday (3-5 night). Please look for the balloons to find it easily. If you choose to purchase an item please follow a simple two step process:

1. Label the item with the name of the Specialist class or the teacher's name and also your child's name.
2. Drop the item off in either the front office or on the stage, in the donation boxes, for daily delivery.

Thanks for helping out these special teachers!
Janann Pittman, PTO Specialist Representative

YEARBOOKS

Friday is the last day to purchase a yearbook at the **early-bird price of \$25**. Buy your yearbook online: www.jostens.com or www.roepto.org/yearbook On **September 17**, the price goes up to \$30. **Spirit Ads** are \$10 for every 25 words. Drop off a check in the yearbook locker with your ad written out and your child's name. **Business ads** are also available. Questions? Please email: yearbook@riveroakspto.org
Please **submit photos** to the yearbook:
images.jostens.com
login id: 400113581
password: riveroaks

ROE MOVIE NIGHT

This year's Family Movie Night features "Meet the Robinsons," the story of a lonely whiz kid who learns the importance of failure-and believing in oneself-on the route to success.
Friday, September 30, 7:00 pm
Showtime 7:30 pm
On ROE playground
See flyer in today's green folder for more details.

ROE DIRECTORY

Directory Data: Look for the Directory data listing in your child's classroom at the Open House's this week to confirm that we received your contact info for this year's Directory.

Ads: The final Ad deadline was yesterday, September 12. If you paid for an ad but haven't sent it, please do that ASAP! If you submitted an ad but have not received a response, please email spiritads@riveroakspto.org to confirm that we received it. We have processed over 100 spirit ads and we are doing our best!

Extra Copies: Each household will receive one Directory free of charge. If you want an extra copy for your car, office, etc. you may preorder one by Sept 29 for \$8. Buy it online or drop a check to ROE PTO in the Directory locker.

Any questions or want to help? Please email directory@riveroakspto.org
Maria Onufrow and the Directory team

FUN RUN

Runners, Start Your Engines!

ROE FUN RUN 2010 – Saturday, October 15th

For all of you new to ROE, this is a truly FUN event for the entire family. This is an ROE school wide running tradition. Students, teachers and all family members gather together to run, walk or jog the track. The day begins with a light and fun stretch lead by Coach Bomersbach followed by everyone running one lap. Moms and dads, and anyone 6th grade and older compete in a lap race. Each grade will then compete against their classmates. A wheel barrow race, moon walks, great music and games fills the morning. Volunteers are needed! We will meet this Thursday **September 15th** in the cafeteria 8:00- 8:20 am to gather helpers and organize this event. Every effort is appreciated and needed. If you want to help but can't come, please email us at fun-run@riveroakspto.org
-Natalie Cordova and David Bowden, Fun Run Chairs

CUB SCOUTS PACK 46

Come find out what Cub Scouts' Pack 46 is all about! Our Fall Recruitment Rally for parents and kids will be held on Wednesday, Sept 14th at 6:00 pm in the ROE Cafeteria. At this meeting, you can meet the Leaders of each Den, Cubs who have been a part of the Pack already, and hear about the great activities we had last year and what we are looking forward to this school year. Pack 46 is "ROE's Pack" and we are looking forward to helping your son grow during this exciting time in their lives. Cub Scouts is open to boys ages 7-11 (1st through 5th grade) and we look forward to seeing all who are interested. Also, be on the lookout for a flier in your son's folder. For more information, questions or comments, please contact Alex Bruton (alex_bruton2326@yahoo.com) or Marc Sanders (marc.sanders@comcast.net).